

Partners In Assistive Technology

- *Removing Barriers*
- *Improving Access*

What is Assistive Technology?

Assistive technology is any tool, equipment, or service designed to help you develop, maintain, or improve your ability to function in all aspects of your life. Assistive technology helps people of all ages who may have a broad range of disabilities or limitations.

Assistive Technology helps in many different ways ...

For someone who does not have full use of his hands, assistive technology may mean a no-worry dinner thanks to a special fork grip or plate guard. To a child or adult who cannot use her own voice, assistive technology may mean a communication device to chat with a friend. To a person who is visually impaired, assistive technology may mean a specially adapted computer to use at school or work. With assistive technology, people with disabilities can find freedom, independence, and fully participate in their home, community, and workplace.

Introducing ATAP ...

In Rhode Island, a working partnership provides assistive technology information and advocacy services. The partnership is called **ATAP** – Assistive Technology Access Partnership. ***ATAP increases knowledge about and access to Assistive Technology.***

ATAP Partners are working to help you:

- find out more about assistive technology and how you can obtain it;
- improve your access to funding sources for assistive technology by developing linkages with state agencies, businesses, community-based organizations, and other cultural organizations; and
- obtain the technology you need by advocating for new policies, regulations and laws.

Call us ... The lead agency coordinating ATAP is the Rhode Island Office of Rehabilitation Services in the Department of Human Services. There are also four ATAP resource centers in Rhode Island. Through these resource centers, ATAP provides you with a variety of services such as information, referrals, product demonstrations, advocacy, and help finding sources to pay for your equipment. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about ATAP and assistive technology, call our Central Resource Center.

ATAP Partnership

ATAP Central Resource Center for Assistive Technology

TechACCESS of RI

110 Jefferson Boulevard, Suite I, Warwick, RI 02888

800.916.8324 [TECH] (V/TTY) ~ 401.463.0202 (V/TTY)

Homepage: www.techaccess@techaccess-ri.org Email: techaccess@techaccess-ri.org

ATAP Resource Center for Elders and Individuals with Sensory Impairments

Ocean State Center for Independent Living (OSCIL)

1944 Warwick Avenue, Warwick, RI 02889

401.738.1013 (V) ~ 401.738.1015 (TTY)

Homepage: www.oscil.org

Email: oscil@oscil.org

ATAP Advocacy Resource Center

RI Disability Law Center, Inc.

349 Eddy Street, Providence, RI 02903

401.831.3150 (V) ~ 401.831.5335 (TTY)

Email: rgreene@ridlc.org

ATAP Resource Center for Children and Youth

East Bay Educational Collaborative

317 Market Street, Warren, RI 02885

401.245.2045 (V) ~ **RI Relay: 711** ~ 800.745.6575 (V) ~ 800.745.5555 (TTY)

Homepage: www.ebecri.org

Email: labittl@ride.ri.net

ATAP Evaluation Team

Sherlock Center/RI College

600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908

401.456.8072 (V) ~ 401.456.8773 (TTY)

Homepage: www.sherlockcenter.org

Email: edalton@ric.edu

ATAP Lead Agency and the RI Council on Assistive Technology (RICAT)

DHS/Office of Rehabilitation Services

40 Fountain Street, Providence, RI 02903

401.421.7005 (V) ~ 401.421.7016 (TTY)

Homepage: www.atap.ri.gov/RICAT.htm

Email: reginac@ors.ri.gov